

REMARKS

Claims 1–15 are pending. Claim 15 is currently amended.

The Applicant notes that a full copy (pages 2–9) of the first non-final Office Action mailed 06/15/05 was included with the currently pending Final Rejection (pages 2–10) mailed 01/18/06. The foregoing amendments to the claims and the following arguments/remarks are provided with the assumption that the copy of the first non-final Office Action was included by mistake. Thus, the objections and rejections detailed in the first non-final Office Action are not addressed in herein, but the Applicant respectfully submits that same were fully addressed in the Amendment submitted on 12/14/05.

The Examiner objects to an Information Disclosure Statement “filed 1/9/04.” However, an IDS for this application was never filed on that date. Reference to PAIR shows an IDS dated 03/22/04. However, for that IDS, there appears to be legible copies of the cited foreign references. The Applicant respectfully requests clarification of the Examiner’s objection.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. In light of the foregoing amendment of claim 15, the Applicant respectfully submits that the §112, first paragraph, rejection of claim 15 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

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